IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): David G. Farber, et al.

Art Unit: 2826

Division of Serial No.: 10/375,996

Examiner: Pershelle L. Greene

Filed: Herewith

Docket: TI-34917.1

For: Etch B

Etch Back of Interconnect Dielectrics

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Karen Vertz

Date

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir.

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, please amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification by inserting before the first line the following sentence:

--This is a division of Application No. 10/375,996, filed 02/28/2003, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference--.